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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

26 MAY 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fremont – Student Arrested on Suspicion of Hate Crime, Making Terror Threats

(U) A 17-year-old was in county juvenile hall after his arrest Wednesday on suspicion of a hate crime and terroristic threats in connection with social-media posts threatening gun violence and using racial epithets against a school district employee, authorities said. In a statement Wednesday night, police said staff at American High School, called just before 9:45 a.m. with word of the student's social-media posts, which school resource officers investigated with help from Fremont Unified school's staff. After those officers identified the student, they spoke with the student, identified only as a 17-year-old male, and his parents at an off-campus site before arresting and booking him on suspicion of a hate crime and making felony terroristic threats. After obtaining a warrant, officers searched the student's home and recovered evidence but no firearm, police said.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, East Bay Times

(U) Fresno – Dozens Arrested in Sting Operation Targeting Violent Crimes

(U) A multi-agency operation has led to hundreds of arrests, and more than two-dozen guns seized. For two weeks, officers, agents, and analysts used surveillance, apprehension and compliance checks of probation and parolees to target violent offenders and violent street crimes. Joseph Gonzalez, a known gang member, was pictured among those arrested in "Operation Safe Neighborhoods." Fresno Police Chief Paco Balderrama says Gonzalez was wanted for a shooting that happened on 8 May near Chestnut and San Gabriel Avenues that sent a 19-year-old to the hospital. During the two-week-long operation, Gonzalez was taken into custody at a hotel near Parkway and Dennett Avenue. In total, Chief Balderrama says Operation Safe Neighborhoods led to 115 felony arrests, 173 misdemeanor arrests, more than 200 parole and probation searches and the seizure of 33 illegal firearms.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, MSN

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Treasury Sanctions Hamas Official and Finance Network

(U) Washington – The United States has sanctioned a Hamas financial official, as well as a network of financial facilitators and companies that have generated revenue for the proscribed Palestinian terror group, the US Treasury Department announced on Tuesday. The sanctions are targeted at Hamas' Investment Office, which is estimated to hold assets of more than \$500 million, as well as companies operating in Sudan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and the United Arab Emirates. These sanctions mean that any property sales by the individuals or entities sanctions will be blocked and reported to the Office of Foreign Assets Control. Additionally, all transactions between sanctioned entities would be banned. SOURCE: 26 May 2022, The JC

(U) New York – Jury Convicts Man of Providing Material Support to a Foreign Terrorist Organization (U) Brooklyn – Mirsad Kandic, 40, of Brooklyn, New York, and Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, was a high-ranking member of Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) who a jury convicted of one count of conspiracy to provide material support to the foreign terrorist organization, and five substantive counts

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of providing material support. Kandic had multiple responsibilities within the global terrorist organization, including recruiting foreign fighters, trafficking foreign fighters from the West through Turkey and into Syria, and obtaining weapons, military equipment, maps, money, and false identifications for ISIS fighters. In carrying out these responsibilities, the defendant worked directly with ISIS emirs and battlefield commanders, including Bajro Ikanovic, who commanded an ISIS training camp in Syria beginning in or around 2014. Ikanovic, in turn, reported to Omar Shishani, then the top military commander for ISIS, and a key advisor to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, US Department of Justice

(U) Texas – AK-47 Found Amid Credible School Mass Shooting Threat

(U) Donna – Donna Independent School District (ISD) will be shutting down all campuses Thursday and Friday after a credible threat was reported to police, according to a source familiar with the situation. An AK-47 and a list of targeted students were found by law enforcement officers in the home of one of the suspects. According to the source, two-to-three people were involved in the foiled plot to open fire at a campus. The situation comes a day after a mass shooting in Uvalde claimed the lives of 19 children and two teachers. Donna ISD superintendent Angela Dominguez said she cannot comment on the details of the situation but confirmed the shut down and said they are acting out of an abundance of caution. SOURCE: 26 May 2022, My RGV news

(U) Texas – Drug Traffickers Handed Significant Sentences

(U) McAllen – A half-dozen men convicted of running drugs along the banks of the Rio Grande near Midway Road have each been given lengthy sentences in federal prison. The six men were participants in the so-called Garcia drug trafficking organization (Garcia DTO) which operated primarily from homes located along Midway Road in Rio Grande City. Prosecutors say the group smuggled hundreds-of-pounds of cocaine through the region while raking in hundreds-of-thousands of dollars in illicit proceeds from around 2015 until their apprehensions in 2019 and early 2020.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, My RGV News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Man Who Admitted to Participating in Terrorism Activity to be Sentenced

(U) Calgary – A man who admitted to terrorism-related acts with the militant group ISIS is to be sentenced today in a Calgary courtroom. Hussein Borhot, 36, has pleaded guilty to one count of participating in terrorism group activity between 9 May 2013, and 7 June 2014, as well as to kidnapping for a terrorist group while in Syria. Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) arrested him in July 2020 after a seven-year investigation. An agreed statement of facts read in court last month said Borhot travelled to Syria through Turkey to join ISIS. The statement said he signed up as a fighter, received substantial training and excelled as a sniper, but did not tell his wife or father before the trip. SOURCE: 26 May 2022, The Star

(U) Cuba – Boat with 842 Haitians Headed for US Winds Up in Cuba

(U) Villa Clara – A vessel carrying more than 800 Haitians trying to reach the United States wound up instead on the coast of central Cuba. Red Cross officials said that the 842 Haitians were being housed at a tourist campground. The group arrived Tuesday at Villa Blanca, about 180 miles east of Havana, and reportedly included 70 children and 97 women. The Haitians said they called for help with light signals after being abandoned and cast adrift by their captain. Paul was traveling with an uncle, his wife, and a baby at a cost of \$4,000 per person. The family said the captain abandoned them early Tuesday on a separate small boat after taking their cellphones.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, Associated Press

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(U) Netherlands – Sharp Increase in Data Leaks Through Cyberattacks

(U) Hague – The number of reported data leaks due to cyber-attacks is increasing explosively. Last year, the Dutch Data Protection Authority (AP) received 2,210 reports that people's data had been stolen through a digital attack. That is 88-percent more than a year earlier. The increase may be partly because affected organizations report faster, but the privacy watchdog is very concerned. "Last year we sounded the alarm when the number of reports rose by 30-percent. The year before the increase was 25-percent. According to the authority, malicious parties are increasingly targeting IT suppliers. These are companies that provide software services to small entrepreneurs so that they do not have to build such programs themselves.

SOURCE: 26 May 2022, NL Times

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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